2016 VOICE OF FREEDOM: FANNIE LOU HAMER, SPIRIT OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
Carloe Boston Weatherford & Ekua Holmes
WSC Juvenile j 323.092 W3783
Presents a collage-illustrated treasury of poems and spirituals inspired by the life and work of civil rights advocate Fannie Lou Hamer.

2014 WHEN THE BEAT WAS BORN
Laban Carrick Hill & Theodore Taylor III
WSC Easy E H5531w
Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc. On a hot day at the end of summer in 1973 Cindy Campbell threw a back-to-school party at a park in the South Bronx. Her brother, Clive Campbell, spun the records. He had a new way of playing the music to make the breaks the musical interludes between verses longer for dancing. He called himself DJ Kool Herc and this is When the Beat Was Born. From his childhood in Jamaica to his youth in the Bronx, Laban Carrick Hill’s book tells how Kool Herc came to be a DJ, how kids in gangs stopped fighting in order to breakdance, and how the music he invented went on to define a culture and transform the world.

2011 SEEDS OF CHANGE
Jen Cullerton Johnson & Sonia Lynn Sadler
A biography of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize winner and environmentalist Wangari Maathai, a female scientist who made a stand in the face of opposition to women’s rights and her own Greenbelt Movement, an effort to restore Kenya’s ecosystem by planting millions of trees.

2009 BIRD
Zetta Elliot
WSC Easy E ELS89b
Bird, an artistic young African American boy, expresses himself through drawing as he struggles to understand his older brother’s drug addiction and death, while a family friend, Uncle Son, provides guidance and understanding.

2005 JAZZY MIZ MOZETTA
Brenda C. Roberts & Frank Morrison
WSC Easy E R5416j

2003 THE MOON RING
Randy DuBurke
WSC Easy E DB84m

2002 FREEDOM SUMMER
Debbie Wiles & Jerome Lagarrigue
WSC Easy E W6475f

1999 THE PIANO MAN
Debbie Chocolate & Eric Velasquez
WSC Easy E C451p

2019 John Steptoe New Talent Award

Author
Monday’s Not Coming
by Tiffany D. Jackson
Coming Soon
In the timely thriller “Monday’s Not Coming,” Jackson examines friendship, child abuse, and family relationships. In alternating chapters, the reader is immediately pulled into the angst that Claudia feels as she struggles to piece together this fragmented tale that concludes with a mind-blowing resolution of Monday’s disappearance.

Illustrator
Thank You, Omu!
by Oge Mora
Coming Soon
“Thank You, Omu!” is a fresh take on a timeless tale of altruism and community-mindedness. Mora’s collage work is skillfully pieced together with acrylic, marker, pastels, patterned paper, and old book clippings, creating a visual smorgasbord. Mora brings to life an amalgamation of many grandmothers and captures the African spirit of generosity and community.